INTRO: A.-Clipping:

B.-Is It A Question of Sanity?

1-This is a "CALLING"
2-The ministry is not a "PROFESSION"
3-One would be insane
--to choose the ministry
--to stay in the ministry
--UNLESS God puts him there
4-1 Tim. 1:12--"And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who hath enabled me, for that He counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry;"
5-So it is with our brother tonight for this ORDINATION SERVICE
6-So it was for Jeremiah when "THE WORD OF THE LORD CAME UNTO ME" (Jer. 1:4)

C.-Our Biblical Pattern For the Man of God:

1-Elected-------1:4-5a
2-Equipped------1:5b-7
3-Empowered-----1:8-10
4-Enlightened---1:11-17
5-Encouraged----1:18-19
6-PROP:---We [illegible] seek to see the ministry and the man of the ministry---not as man conceives it, but as God reveals them to us.

I.-ELECTED A PREACHER------(Jer. 1:4-5a):

A.-Chosen Before Birth:

1-Initiative is Divine
2-Understanding is by REVELATION as God speaks to ME !
3-"Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee..."(1:5)
--"Knew" is in the sense of "CHOSE"
--God's man is an exquisite vessel for service
--Sensitive to God
--Sensitive to people
4-He is a CHOSEN Man--Chosen for salvation
--Chosen for the ministry
5-ILLUS--At the age of 19, Wilbur M. Smith paced the floor of his parental home in Chicago. "Suddenly," he says, "I was conscious that the Lord wanted me to go into the ministry." Previously he had insisted that "the cloth" was the one profession he could never possibly follow.

Upon learning of his son's decision, Wilbur Smith's father said, "Now I can tell you, Wilbur, that before you were born, your mother prayed, 'Lord, if our firstborn is a son, may he be one who will preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ.' HER PRAYER HAS BEEN ANSWERED TODAY."

B.-Set Apart In Time: (1:5)

1-"Before thou camest out of the womb, I sanctified thee"
2-"SANCTIFIED" =="Set apart for special service"
3-This was in the mind of God eternally

- Jeremiah's case here
- Similar situations can be multipled
- Prediction concerning Christ
- Isa. 49:1--"Listen, O isles, unto me; and hearken, ye people, from far; The LORD hath called Me from the womb; from the bowels of my mother hath he made mention of My name."
- Paul's testimony
- Gal. 1:15-16--"But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother's womb, and called me by His grace, to reveal His Son in me, that I might preach Him..."

4-Yet, there is an ACTUALIZING TIME in human experience when the human heart responds to the Divine summons to service

5-ILLUS---P.C.R. telling Nelson Warner that: "I think" I am being called into the christian ministry
- --His question--"Have you told anyone...?"
- --His advice----"Go home, lock your door, ask God if He will let you happily serve Him in any other way or capacity.....IF SO, you're NOT CALLED!

6-Each one of us must face the question of where God would have us serve Him in His plan & will
- --Pastor or pipefitter
- --Evangelist or elevator operator
- --Missionary or mechanic
- --Teacher or truck driver
- --Bible teacher or butcher

Feeder of the Flock — or a feeder of hogs.

7-QUESTION -----What has been God's Election in your life? ?

II, EQUIPPED AS A PREACHER -----(1:5b-7):

A.-Divine Ordination:

1-1:5b

2-God calls and He puts His stamp of approval upon His man

3-Schooling & training are helpful
- --Education may sharpen & hone
- --Experience is necessary as an understudy
- --But do so only as long as you can maintain a "HOT HEART"

4-God's call in a man's breast cannot be gainsayed

5-Ours is the Ordination of the pierced hands

6-Minister was quoted: "Every time ministers get together, you will hear over & over again the cracked record---- 'I am inadequate....INADEQUATE.....INADEQUATE!"

7-Yes.....but---2 Cor. 3:5-6

B.-Divine Authorization:

1-Human remonstrance--1:6
- --About 21 years of age
- --Reminds of Moses in Exodus 4
- --"I am not eloquent; I am not a man of words; I am but a child." At Age 80
- --1 Tim. 4:12--"Let no man despise thy youth, but be thou an example of the believers..."

2-Divine remonstrance--1:7
- --Stop majoring on what you can't do !!
- --Begin to count on what God will do !!

the problems which develop

--ILLUS--John Wesley used to ask his young men whom he sent out to preach on probation these two questions: (1) "Has any one been converted?" and (2) "Did any one get mad?"

If the answer to both questions was "NO", Wesley told them he did not think the Lord had called them to preach the Gospel, and sent them about their business. When the Holy Spirit convicts of sin, people are either converted, or they don't like it & get mad !

7-Remember: --The same sun that HARDENS the clay also MELTS the wax. The difference is in the material touched.
--So it is with men's hearts !
--Adage: "If the shoe fits, wear it"

IV. ENLIGHTENED AS A PREACHER ---(1:11-17):

A.-Sign Of Almond Tree-----PROMISE:

1-1:11-12
2-Some see this as a picture of a rod of chastening from God
3-I can't follow that!
4-Almond Tree--Known as "The tree that hastens to awake"
--Blooms in January when other trees are still asleep
--Picture of RESURRECTION and LIFE
--Aaron's Rod in Num. 17:8
5-Enlightenment of the preacher is needed continually
--Promise of God
--Resurrection is sure
--God's Word backs it !

B.-Sign Of Seething Pot-----PROBLEM:

1-1:13-16
2-Seems to be a picture of the state of the world in a bubbling caldron of confusion & spiritual opposition
3-Mankind has substituted idolatry for true worship
4-Preacher needs this enlightenment
-While the promise is sure
-Still the problems are present
5-It would be easy to respond to the temptation to "read out" God's people, and send them "packing", but that's not God's way or will
6-Remember, the Root of all antagonism is
-Either spiritual APOSTASY...
-Or spiritual CARNALITY.....
-Or ignorance

C.-Absolute Necessity Of Personal Involvement:

1-1:17
2-Note the personal pronouns
3-God calls His servant to INVOLVEMENT !!!
4-Come down out of the bleachers
5-Get into the field of activity

BOORUM & PEASE "NOTEAR" ®
BOORUM & PEASE "NOTEAR" ®

6-LEARN BY EXPERIENCE----an "internship"
7-We might tend to feel dismayed & confounded
8-Need to be enlightened
- --About God's promises
- --About common problems
- --About necessary involvement

Elisha w/ Elijah (6)
Disciples w/ our Lord
Saul w/ Barnabas
Mark
Timothy
Titus

V.-ENCOURAGED PREACHERS----(1:18-19):

A.-The Opposition:

1-1:18-19a
2-Storms seem to center over the man of God continually !
3-Lutheran pastor Noah Imbody has said: "If I'd known as a young man the problems I'd become a part of, the human anguish I'd be invited to see, I don't think I'd have had the courage to become a Pastor."
4-But, though the opposition rages---it's a spiritual Battle
5-Someone has aptly said: "The Pastor must have the HEAD of a Father, the HEART of a Mother, and the HIDE of a rhinoseros."
6-Yet, with the opposition----there is also.....

B.-The Victory:

1-1:19b
2-Three grand encouragements: FROM GOD!
- --"They shall not prevail against thee"
- --"For I am with thee, saith the LORD"
- --"To deliver thee"

3-From this we may gather courage ! Amen !
4-Victory is OURS---Some victories will be here on earth
--Some delayed til the Bema
5-"Immanuel" is the watchword of every true soldier in God's army

CONCLUSION:

A.-Review----Preacher Is:

1-Elected of God
2-Equipped of God
3-Empowered by God
4-Enlightened of God
5-Encouraged of God

Remember your CALLING, Brethren!

B.-Personal Word To Pastor To Be Ordained:

1-Take these principles from Jeremiah 1 as a personal keynote for your future ministry
2-Join me in claiming John 15:16
3-Lean heavily upon God in your ministry
4-Trust Him implicitly
- --He knows what He's about in your life
- --Even when you cannot seem to see the ending !

5-Let's read 2 Tim. 2:1-4

C.-Word To The People Assembled:

1-Remind you that a Pastor is a mere man
2-Someone recently left a poem on the desk in

3-"Thou shalt go to all that I shall send thee"
--We're under orders
--We aren't choosers of our spheres of labor
--We're delivering the BREAD OF LIFE

4-Our pay for labor--"Dough" or "Bread" ??
--Are we lining up to receive???
--Or are we SIGNING UP to give

C.-Divine Proclamation:

1-"Whatsoever I command thee, thou shalt speak.."(1:7c)

2-Reminds of Paul's words to Timothy:
--1 Tim. 6:20 a--"O Timothy, keep that which is committed to thy trust..."

3-An ancient writer maintained: "This gospel message is one which has been 'COMMITTED' to the ministers of the church, not INVENTED by them; which they have RECEIVED, not which they have DEVISED; a thing not of WIT, but of LEARNING; not of PRIVATE ASSUMPTION, but of PUBLIC TRADITION; a thing brought TO THEM; not brought forth OF THEM; wherein they must be not AUTHORS, but KEEPERS; not FOUNDERS, but OBSERVERS..."

4-Writing of 20th century ministers recently, POST Magazine records the quotation: "He may even doubt the validity of the Gospels themselves."

STAND + SPEAK

5-NOT SO for Jeremiah------26:1-2

6-NOT SO for Paul----------1 Cor. 9: 16--"For though I preach to gospel, I have nothing to glory of: for necessity is laid upon me; yea, woe is unto me, if I preach not the gospel!"

7-The man of God must KNOW whereof he speaks

8-We believe it to be so with this man tonight to be ORDAINED----Elected as a preacher
Equipped as a preacher
And.....

III. EMPOWERED TO PREACH ----(1:8-10):

A.-To Be Delivered From Fear:

1-1:8

2-Fear of man is a real plague

3-ILLUS---When I was about 1 year into the ministry & I came out onto the platform one Sunday morning to see 5 fine & gifted men of God in the congregation, and not a one of them with less than 20 years of fruitful ministry behind them.

SPIRITUAL BATTLE----What should I do. Bowed my head in prayer, and God assured me that He had called me to be Pastor of that church, that He had given me my message for that day, that He had brought those 5 men--and the whole congregation to hear it, AND that HE WOULD SEE ME THROUGH THE EXPERIENCE

4-The answer---for me
--for Jeremiah
--1:8--"I am with thee to deliver thee,"
--For

Brother to be ordained also

B.-To Be A Spokesman:

1-1:9

2-Our message is Divine

3-We are empowered to deliver it

4-Many will not like the strict message of God's Word

5-Mt. 7:13-14--"Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: because straight is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it." ONLY ONE WAY OF SALVATION

6-If we're to be faithful, it must be as a spokesman for God

7-ILLUS--In Wales some years ago, a preacher--known for his uncompromising stand against iniquity and his unwavering proclamation of the Gospel--went to be with his Lord. It was a mining town, and hundreds of the miners, many of whom were ungodly men and had not attended preaching services, came to the funeral, for there had never been a man so highly esteemed in the community.

At the graveside, the Pastor in charge turned to the townspeople and said, "Friends, the greatest obstacle between you and hell has been removed. Take heed."

C.--To Be An Active Leader:

1-1:10

2-Our realm is--not political
--not social action
--not moral reform
--But SPIRITUAL regeneration

This is THE ISSUE!!

3-As the editor of the "Presbyterian Journal" on Sept. 27, 1967, stated: "We don't object to a social concern. We do object to a social concern apart from the Gospel, in place of the Gospel, ahead of the Gospel, or on a par with the Gospel."

4-I agree.....I only wish that attitude characterized Presbyterianism today, as once it did!

5-God calls us to STAND UP and to SPEAK UP

--DESTRUCTION ** To root out
** To pull down
** To destroy
** To throw down
** Preacher's task is to bring people to their senses & to their knees.

Preparation

--CONSTRUCTION ** To build
** To plant
** Expect it will take time to do a work for God
** Too many preachers are today involved in the "game of musical pulpits"
** Preacher is like the forms in which concrete is poured. After the people get set in God's pattern, he can safely move to a new ministry. If he moves too soon, it will lead to a disastrous collapse.

6-Being a leader for God
--Will demand Divine empowerment
--Will develop some opposition
--Some men leave the ministry because of ILL HEALTH...
....The congregation is "Sick of them"
--God expects us to STAND, not to RUN in the face of

my office. Having been a Pastor for a number of years, I read it with keen interest. It was written by Rev. Donald Shakleton of Philadelphia, and it seems fitting to share it with you. It's title is: "THE MINISTER"

(7)

"To pray for the sick and bury the dead,
To preach to the heart as well as the head,
To seek for the sinner and build up the saint,
To encourage the weak and lift up the faint,
To never be tired, discouraged or lone,
To ever be smiling and always at home,
To give till it hurts and then give some more,
To greet every member as he stands by the door,
To be ready to go both by night or by day,
To ever be listening, never having his say,
To be preacher and poet, wise man and slave,
To never take rest till he rests in the grave,
To marry the young and counsel them, too,
To be a model husband with faults very few,
To draw people in and keep them from drifting,
To lift others up and never need lifting,
It's a high, holy calling, this state of a preacher,
But kindly remember, friend, he too is only a creature."

3-Therefore---Love him
Pray for him
Support him
Encourage him
Protect him
Appreciate him
Glorify God with him,

and God will bless you, TOGETHER!

Westbrae--3/31/68--Hackelman's Ordination
63--"A Charge To Keep"
354--"Living For Jesus"

Riverside - Pentecostal College - 1968
SF Seminary 10/30/71
Grace Bapt Ch. Westerville 10/12/80 - Doug Winn.
IFCA - Byrdstown, TN - 3/16/81
Minnick Bible Church, TN - 11/15/81 - Robert Hall
Maple Valley Bapt. Ch., WV - 5/23/82 - David Chavez
Old Kanawha Bapt. Ch - 9/25/83 - David Kraft,

7/21/95 First Bapt. Ch. Berlin, OH – Charlie Frank
8/3/92 – Cranberry Cr. Com. Ch. – NY – Jim Saunders
3/15/92 – Glen View Ind. Bapt. Ch, WV – Duane Pease
4/5/93 – Victory Baptist Ch, Beaver – David Robinson

"THE HEART OF MAN" Jer. 17:9-10

INTRODUCTION:

A.-Heart Month---FEBRUARY:

February is celebrated throughout the city, state and nation as "HEART MONTH". Heart-related diseases and disfunctions account for ½ the deaths in our country each year. This information has turned my thinking to:

"THE HEART OF MAN"

B.-The Birth Of Our Nation:

It is a pity, as the Bicentennial year dawns, that we've picked the WRONG YEAR to celebrate. I agree that it's too late to call off the nation's 200th birthday party. Nevertheless, I submit that the date we should be celebrating is not the ORGANIZATIONAL birth of our nation in 1776, but its ORGANIC birth in 1740.

What occured in that year was nothing less than an inner American revolution, a spiritual declaration of independence that made the political reshuffling 36 years later an inevitability. The year 1740 was the crest of that wave of spiritual power called "THE GREAT AWAKENING". This is the movement which deserves notice as the real birth of the American consciousness.

C.-The Birth Of "Heart Religion":

To understand this inner American revolution of 1740 we must take the spotlight off Boston, Lexington & Concord and shine it on the RARITAN VALLEY of New Jersey, the quiet hills of EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA, and the trim hamlets nestled in the fertile CONNECTICUT VALLEY.

In 1727 a small Dutch Reformed Church in New Jersey heard T. J. Frelinghuysen begin stressing in his preaching the need for "heart" religion. This novel emphasis broke thru the frozen crust of his congregation's complacent Calvinism like an ice axe. The Tennent family of Philadelphia lit a similar fire beneath the chilled Presbyterianism of the middle colonies with the same exciting results....HEARTS of men and women were set aflame.

In the late 1730's the tranquil Connecticut Valley shook with the fervor of renewed Northampton Congregationalists led by their brilliant and godly pastor, Jonathan Edwards. Edwards published these dramatic effects in a small book entitled A NARRATIVE OF SURPRISING CONVERSIONS, an eyewitness account of spiritual transformations that soon became a best-seller on both sides of the Atlantic.

D.-The Spread Of "Heart Religion":

All that remained was for these regional revivals to be channeled together to create a mighty movement of spiritual power. The one man who more than any other accomplished this task was the firebrand British evangelist GEORGE WHITEFIELD, who

was then 25 years old. His open-air meetings stirred thousands of colonists throughout the southern & middle colonies. After a successful campaign in Philadelphia, in the waning weeks of 1739 he was led northward to New England. Thereafter New England was flooded with new conversions and renewed commitments. The impact of Whitefield on New England as the GREAT AWAKENING reached its crest can best be described in the words of Nathan Cole, a farmer of the Middletown, Conn. area, who wrote this eyewitness account:

> "Then on a sudden, in the morning about 8 or 9 of the clock there came a messenger & said Mr. Whitefield preached at Hartford & Wethersfield yesterday and is to preach at Middletown this morning at ten of the clock. I was in my field at work. I dropped my tool that I had in my hand & ran home to get my wife, telling her to make ready quickly to go & hear Mr. Whitefield preach at Middletown...And when we came within about a half a mile or a mile...I saw before me a cloud of fog rising. I first thought it came from the great river but as I came nearer the road, I heard the noise of horses feet coming down the road, and the cloud was the cloud of dust made by the horses feet...And as I grew nearer it seemed like a steady stream of horses and their riders...all of a lather and foam with sweat, their breath rolling out of their nostrils with every jump (THE GREAT AWAKENING,edited by Heimert & Miller, 1967, P. 184)

Cole's account goes on:

> "When I saw Mr. Whitefield come upon the scaffold he looked almost angelical; a young, slim, slender youth, before some thousands of people with a bold undaunted countenance. And my hearing how God was with him everywhere as he came along, it solemnized my mind and put me to trembling fear before he began to preach; for he looked as if he was clothed with authority from the Great God...and my hearing him preach gave me a heart wound. By God's blessing my old foundation was broken up and I saw that my righteousness would not save me." (P. 186)

This scene was repeated scores of times in that climactic year of 1740. Dozens of itinerant evangelists took Whitefield's message to the remote backwaters of the colonies. AN INNER REVOLUTION had taken place that forged a bond among the colonies and weakened the ties with Europe. What was awakened in addition to a spiritual concern, was the spirit of American Independence.

I.-THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION:

A.-The Outer Revolution Of 1776:

1-Armed rebellion against Great Britain
2-Political issue of TAXATION without representation:
BOSTON TEA PARTY
3-Formerly these colonies were loyal to the Crown
4-Now rebellious against KING and COUNTRY
5-Even embracing their long-term enemy, FRANCE
6-B U T, was this taxation issue ENOUGH to explain the disaffection of these Colonists?? D O U B T F U L!!
7-I see 3 reasons arising from the Great Awakening of 1740 & following as the inner power behind the political

erruption of 1776.

B. The Inner Revolution Of 1740:

1-Message of The Awakening was of PERSONAL COMMITMENT and INDIVIDUAL DECISION:

--This touched a wider audience

--Taxation without representation

** Primarily an issue to the merchant class in Port cities like Boston

** Not as widespread an appeal as we often think

** America was largely RURAL in population

** Only 1 in 20 lived in cities

** 19 of 20 were rural & farmers

--Boston was a powerful center

** Both of Trade

** And also of INFLUENCE

** But unable to enflame the whole eastern seaboard by the taxation issue

--Inflamed colonists in 1776

** Not created by the taxation issue

** BUT REKINDLED the spirit of independent decision fostered in the Great Awakening of 1740

** Spiritual flavor SATURATED the colonies

++ From Atlantic to Appalachians

++ From Georgia to Massachusets

** So...we see a WIDER AUDIENCE than would have been aroused & moved by the political issue alone

2-As a "CAUSE" for the movement for independence, the Great Awakening had a deeper appeal than the taxation issue did

--Great Awakening touched the heartstrings

--Taxation touched the pocketbook

--"SOMETHING MORE" was the cry of those whose spiritual appetites had been aroused in 1740.

--Aftermath of that seeking spirit gave a disaffection toward the "STATUS QUO"

--That was a long-term appeal

** Colonists came to America 2 centuries before as Puritans

** Religious impulses motivated them---even to the beheading of King Charles

** Now, later, their descendants with transformed hearts yearned to free themselves from a Monarch's rule

--EXAMPLE---Herman Husband:

** Political radical

** Joined a southern guerilla force in N. Car.

** Failure there

** Moved north

** Worked tirelessly for independence from England

** What was the source of Herman Husband's radicalism???

** Whitefield (Some Remarks On Religion, 1750) tells of his conversion:

** "...his longing for a more abrupt & soul-ravishing experience hints at why he, XXXX

along with other Americans for whom the Great Awakening was still a vivid recollection, responded as they did to the next great 'crisis' in the life of their society." (The Great Awakening, P. 637)

--Thus we see that there was A DEEPER APPEAL for many in their spiritual heritage for "something more", than can be found alone in their polical reactions.

3-The Great Awakening had a deeper impact on the political cry for independence than did the issue of taxation because of LONGER EXPOSURE:

--For several years before 1776 there was political agitation:

** Sons of Liberty were active
** Pamphleteers wrote
** Populus read it all
** Constant diatribes by opposing forces
** 13 years of the blood French & Indian Wars

--But long before that--for over 35 years--the message of the Great Awakening had the opportunity to sink deeply into the consciousness of the "common man" throughout the colonies from North to South.

--An alienation of heart & mind was widespread

--For over 3 decades the message of inner freedom had been the outgrowth of the message of "HEART RELIGION"

--So, our point of importance is the long exposure of the American colonists to preparatory truth in the Great Awakening.

--This was the occasion of America's ALIENATION OF HEART from Britain

4-Some of America's leaders did not come to Biblical, life-transforming faith:

--Adams, Franklin, Jefferson, Hamilton, Madison

--Yet, they too were INFLUENCED by the Great Awakening & were "carried along" by its social effects even though not involved in its spiritual revival

--So, then, taxation became the "TRIGGER" issue

--But the gun was loaded by the preaching of the gospel of Christ 35 years before and the lasting effect of lives transformed by the message of God's grace to sinners

5-Winthrop Hudson, noted Church Historian:

"The Awakening played an important role in forming a national consciousness among the people of different colonies whose primary ties were with Europe rather than with one another. As a spontaneous movement which swept across all colonial boundaries, generated a common conviction that God had a special destiny for America, the Awakening contributed greatly to the development of a sense of cohesiveness among American people." (Religion In America, P. 76, 1965)

6-So, as we enter the Bicentennial era:

--Let's look behind the parades & displays & historic sites.

--Let us return to the Biblical message that set the stage for POLITICAL INDEPENENCE
--That is the believing of what God's Word says about "THE HEART OF MAN"

II.-THE SPIRITUAL REVOLUTION:

A.-The CorruptHeart:

1-Heart is not visible to man

2-Therefore we are not infallibly capable of discerning hearts

3-GOD looks at man AS HE IS:
--Jer. 17:10--"I the LORD search the heart, I try the reins, even to give every man according to the fruit of his doings."
--1 Sam. 16:7--"But the LORD said unto Samuel, Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for the LORD seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart"

4-God's evaluation--Not as man would view it
--But accurately & true heart
--Need to take God's Word on man's /

5-What does God say is the actual HEART CONDITION of mankind??--Jer. 17:9--"The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it
--Pr. 27:19--"As in water face answereth to face, so the heart of man to man."
--Mk. 7:18-23
--Every human being is CAPABLE of all this-----
----and more!
--May not be guilty of ALL
--But certainly guilty of S O M E
--That means we are GUILTY !!
--Rom. 2:5--"But after thy hardness & impenitent heart treasurest up unto thyself wrath against the day of wrath & revelation of the righteous judgment of Gdd."

6-ILLUS--Some years ago a remarkable picture was exhibited in London. As you looked at it from a distance, you seemed to see a monk engaged in prayer, his hands clasped & his head bowed. As you came nearer, however, and examined the painting more closely, you saw that in reality he was SQUEEZING A LEMON into a punch bowl.
What a picture of the human heart!! Superficially examined, it is thought to be the seat of all that is good and noble and pleasing in man. In reality, until regenerated by the Holy Spirit, it is the seat of all corruption.

7-Mankind is CORRUPT without God in his life!

8-INCAPABLE of helping himself
--Jer. 10:23--"Oh LORD, I know that it is not in man that walketh to direct his steps."
--HEART is the regulator of man & it reflects his spiritual condition.

9-Yet, God's standard is PERFECTION !!

B.-The Crying Heart:
1-No help for this condition in man's own resources
2-Bankrupt in & of himself
3-The cry of the FOOL--Ps. 14:1--"The fool hath said in his heart, (There is) no God. They are corrupt, they have done abominable works, there is none that doeth good."
4-The cry of the FAILURE:
--Ps. 51:10--"Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me."
--W H Y ??
--Ps. 66:18--"If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me."
--What's the root of this ??
--Prov. 14:14--"The backslider in heart shall be filled with his own ways: and a good man shall be satisfied from himself."
5-The cry of the FELLOWSHIPPING:
--Ps. 27:8--"When thou saidst, Seek ye my face; my heart said unto thee, Thy face, LORD, will I seek."
6-G O D is our answer for a needy heart !!

C.-The Cleansed Heart:
1-Since the help is not in man...
2-And since the heart-work we need is "OF GOD"
3-What does He use to accomplish this CLEANSING ??
4-BY THE WORD:
--Ps. 119:9-11 (notice vs. 10)
--Unreserved heart-commitment
--Prov. 6:20-22--"My son, keep thy father's commandment, & forsake not the law of thy mother: Bind them continually upon thine heart, and tie them about thy neck. When thou goest, it shall lead thee; when thou sleepest, it shall keep thee; and when thou awakest, it shall talk with thee."
--Continuous ministry
--Rom. 6:17--"But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered unto you."
--Not just the connoisseurs of terms
--But consumers of T R U T H
5-BY THE SPIRIT--Logic & charisma are not enough
--It takes a work of God
--LYDIA is a good example
--Acts 16:14--"And a certain woman named Lydia, a seller of purple, of the city of Thyatira, which worshipped God, heard us: whose heart the Lord opened, that she attended unto the things which were spoken of Paul."
--This is the Spirit's officework to move in hearts
6-ILLUS--Back on Feb. 25, 1947 one of the most unusual operations in medical history took place. The operation was performed in the Dept. of Research Surgery at O.S.U. A stony sheath was re-

moved from around the heart of a 30 year old man.

How had such a condition developed??

Well, it sounds almost unbelievable. But here are the facts. When this patient was just a boy, he had been accidentally shot by a playmate. The bullet had lodged in the boy's heart, but---for some mysterious reason---had not caused death. However, a lime deposit had begun to form over the protective covering of the heart & was gradually strangling it.

HOW was the heart freed from its potential killer? Here's how. Skilled surgeons performed a most delecate operation which involved separating the ribs & moving the left lung to one side. Then the chief surgeon lifted the stony coating from the heart in much the way an orange is peeled. Immediately, the pressure was reduced & the heart responded by expanding & pumping normally.

When the operation was completed, the patient said: "I feel a thousand per cent better already."

I guess he would----poor fellow! I'd hate to have a stony sheath around my heart. The only thing worse would be to have a STONY HEART SPIRITUALLY. But there's a cure for that:

D.-The Cured Heart:

1-God's heart-trouble cure:

--Instantaneous at conversion
--Continues thru life
--Transforms our character
--Changing of our conduct
--Ultimately accomplished "when we see Jesus"

2-IN SALVATION:

--A heart belief is the issue
--Prov. 3:5--"Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding."
--What does "TRUST" involve??
--Rom. 10:9-10--"That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation."
--Believing the facts about Jesus Christ
--And then PERSONALIZING that belief
--Example in the Ethiopian Eunuch
--Acts 8:37--"And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God."

3-IN SATISFACTION:

--Where is your joy?
--How does it come??
--Simply a HEART ATTITUDE
--Ps. 37:4--"Delight thyself also in the LORD; and He shall give thee the desires of thine heart."
--Example in C A L E B, who "wholly followed the Lord"
--And it shows !!
--Prov. 15:13-15

4-IN STABILITY:
--Heart is the battle-ground
--Prov. 4:23--"Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life."
--Heart RIGHT-----all else will be also
--Heart WRONG------Nothing turns out happily
--Promise that we should be "trouble-free"
--John 14:1, 27--"Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in Me....Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid."
--NOTE: ** I said "trouble-free", but not TRIAL-free
** Troubles are INTERNAL
** TRIALS are e x t e r n a l
** Provision for our stability of heart is ample!!
--How do I enter into this experience of stability??
--Deut. 6:5-6--"And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up."
--That's what W E can do
--But that's on top of what God has already done
--Ezek. 36:26-27--"A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do them."

5-IN SERVICE--Recently saw it in Ezra
--Ezra 7:10--"For Ezra had prepared his heart to seek the law of the LORD, and to do it, and to teach in Israel statutes and judgments."
--Also see it in DAVID
--1 Kings 8:17-18--"And it was in the heart of David my father to build an house for the name of the LORD God of Israel. And the LORD said unto David my father, Whereas it was in thine heart to build an house unto my name, thou dist well that it was in thine heart."
--And again in SAMUEL's example and exhortation
--1 Sam. 12:20-24

6-Indeed, the cured heart makes its God-given change known in every area of our lives

CONCLUSION:

A.-The American Revolution:
1-OUTER evidence was political & military
2-Seen in 1776 in founding of our nation
3-INNER cause was spiritual--"HEART RELIGION" of Great Awakening
--Wide audience; Deep Appeal
--LONG EXPOSURE.

B.-The Spiritual Revolution-------AND Y O U !!:

1-Natural state----A CORRUPT HEART

2-Sense of Need----A CRYING HEART

3-Divine solution------A CLEANSED HEART

4-Transformed experience----A CURED HEART

5-ILLUS--A man with Spurgeon once remarked,"Children are so ignorant when you think they understand." Later he went with Spurgeon to see some children, & he said to one of them, "Well, my boy, have you a good heart?"

"Yes, sir," replied the boy.

"There you are," said the gentleman, turning to Spurgeon, "you see he does not know the first thing about the gospel. He doesn't even know he's a sinner.

Whereupon Mr. Spurgeon addressed the boy, "HOW do you know you have a good heart?"

"Well,"said the boy, "When I took the Lord Jesus Christ as my Savior, He gave me a NEW HEART, and I'm sure it was a good one, since it came from Him."

6-HAVE YOU had a personal involvement with "HEART RELIGION"??

7-ILLUS-As Sir Walter Raleigh lay his head on the block, the executioner, before lifting the axe, asked: "Does your head lie right, Sir Walter?"

Sir Walter turned toward his executioner and replied,"You know friend, it does not matter how the head lies, IF THE HEART IS RIGHT."

Then he laid his head on the block, and in a moment the great man's head rolled on the straw of the scaffold.

8-IS YOUR HEART RIGHT in God's sight?...

.....it can be, if you will let Jesus Christ come into your heart and give you a

"GREAT AWAKENING" today.

Calvary Columbus--2/15/76

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